

Case 3491***Podargus cornutus* Temminck, 1822 (currently *Batrachostomus cornutus*; Aves, PODARGIDAE): proposed conservation of usage of the specific name by designation of a neotype**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Article 75.6 of the Code, is to conserve the accustomed usage of the name *cornutus* Temminck, 1822 for the Sumatran population of the southeast Asian species currently named *Batrachostomus javensis* (Horsfield, 1821) (Aves, PODARGIDAE). To this end, we ask that Temminck's action in proposing the replacement of Horsfield's name *javensis* with *cornutus* be set aside so that *cornutus* does not become a junior objective synonym of *javensis* (type locality in Java) and that the Sumatran specimen which Temminck actually described as *cornutus* be designated as its neotype. This would establish *cornutus* for the Sumatran form for which it has been in use for over 70 years as the subspecific name.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Aves; PODARGIDAE; *Batrachostomus*; *Podargus*; *Batrachostomus javensis*; *Batrachostomus cornutus*; frogmouth; Java; Sumatra.

1. Horsfield (1821a, p. 141) described a new frogmouth from Java, which he named *Podargus javensis*. The specimen considered to be the holotype is extant and present in the collection of the Natural History Museum, Tring, U.K. (Warren, 1966, p. 148). Later, Horsfield (1821b) provided a colour plate of this frogmouth, using the incorrect subsequent spelling *javanensis*. The date of this latter work (November) is to be found in the Day Book of the East India Company Library (Bastin, 1990, p. 75). Bastin's dates have been summarised by Dickinson (in press).

2. Temminck (1822, text to pl. 159), believing he had located a specimen of the same taxon from Sumatra, named this specimen as *Podargus cornutus* and explicitly stated that he was replacing Horsfield's name. It is evident from Temminck's general practice during the period 1820 to 1840 that he disliked the use of local geographic names, especially when he believed they obfuscated wider geographic occurrence. Temminck, in the same text, wrote: 'M. Horsfield a le premier décrit et donné une figure de cet oiseau. Ce naturaliste d'ailleurs très-distingué, a été peu soigneux dans le choix des noms donnés aux espèces nouvelles qu'il fait connaitre; les dénominations d'îles et de contrées peu étendues ont été imposées à presque toutes les espèces de mammifères et d'oiseaux contenus dans ses fascicules. Le Podarge de cet article figuré dans la seconde fascicule, porte aussi le nom de *Javanensis*, que nous avons changé en celui de *Cornutus*, afin d'indiquer un caractère marquant qui distingue cette espèce' [Mr Horsfield first described and included a figure of this bird. This naturalist, otherwise very distinguished, has been less than careful in his choice of names given to the new species he has made known; the names of islands and countries of small extent have been imposed on almost all the species of mammals and birds contained in his works. The frogmouth of this article, figured in the second part, also bears the name *Javanensis* which we have changed to *Cornutus* in order to draw attention to a remarkable character which distinguishes this species]. Temminck then added: 'M. Horsfield n'a pu se procurer qu'un seul individu de cette espèce, très-difficile à découvrir dans les retraites sombres où elle vit cachée pendant le jour, on la trouve à Java, dans les grandes forêts. L'individu du Musée de Paris qui nous a servi de modèle, a été envoyé de Bencoule, dans l'île de Sumatra, par MM. Diard et Duvaucel' [Mr Horsfield was only able to obtain a single individual of this species, which is very hard to discover in the shady retreats where it lives concealed during the day, one finds it in Java in large forests. The individual in the Paris Museum, which has served us as a model, was sent from Bencoolen (now Bengkulu) in the island of Sumatra by Messrs Diard and Duvaucel]. Temminck had his artist depict the specimen that he had found in Paris, collected by Diard and Duvaucel. This specimen is still extant and has been listed, incorrectly, as the holotype of *Podargus cornutus* Temminck by Cleere et al. (2006).

3. Chasen (1935) listed *cornutus* as a synonym of *javensis*, but noted their distinct geographic origins. It fell to Stresemann (1937), in a thorough review of this genus, to conclude that *javensis* and *cornutus* were at least subspecifically distinct. Stresemann (1937) mentioned that the type of *cornutus* was in Paris, although he did not give its details so presumably did not examine it. Nor did he appreciate that *cornutus* Temminck was in effect a new name for *javensis* Horsfield. Only in 1986 did Mees (1986, p. 54) observe that it was Temminck's intention to replace Horsfield's name rather than to describe a new taxon. We concur with this view, although the two populations have been considered distinct since 1937, and point out that without preventative action, Temminck's name, in universal usage since 1937, will have to be treated as a junior objective synonym of *javensis* Horsfield.

4. All global and regional manuals, handbooks and checklists after Stresemann (1937) have consistently treated *cornutus* as the valid name for the Sumatran population (Peters, 1940; Howard & Moore, 1980, 1984, 1991; van Marle & Voous, 1988; Clements, 1991, 2000, 2007; Mackinnon & Phillips, 1993; Cleere, 1998; Holyoak, 1999, 2001; Dickinson, 2003; Clements, 2007). Most, but not all, the recent

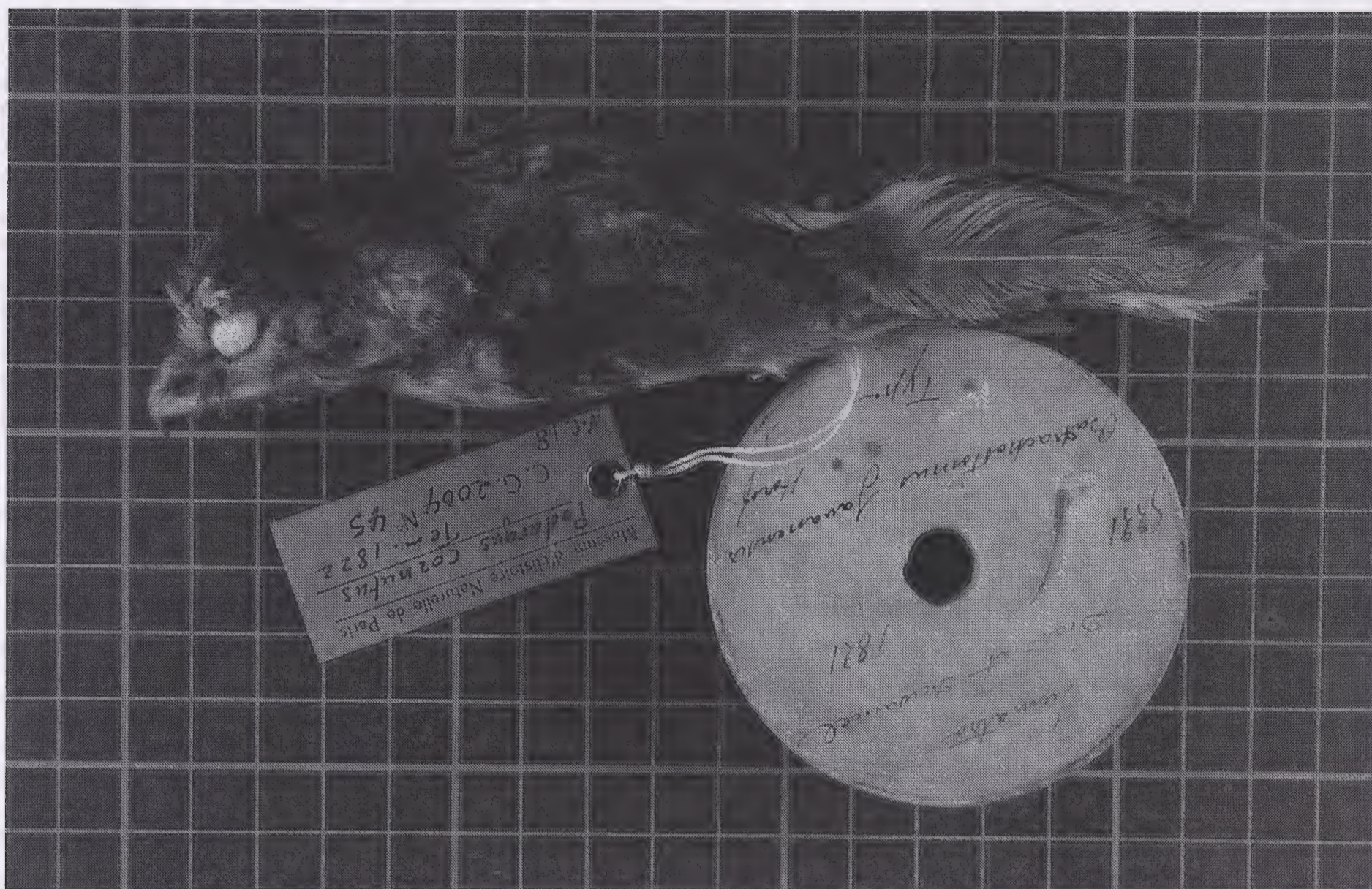


Fig. 1. The listed 'holotype' of *Podargus cornutus* Temminck, 1822, which we propose be accepted as the neotype. The squares that underlie the specimen are 1 cm by 1 cm.

authorities consider it a separate species and additionally associate with it the allopatric populations on Borneo and Bangka. The Commission has received a list of 10 additional publications further supporting the statement that the name *cornutus* has been universally used for this taxon since it was separated in 1937.

5. No other name has been traced for the distinct Sumatran form of this frogmouth; nor for the Bornean population. It has twice previously been suggested, however, that an application should be made to conserve *cornutus* for it (Inskipp et al., 1996; Holyoak, 2001). This requires the removal of *cornutus* from its position in junior objective synonymy with *javensis*. Under Article 75.6, we now ask to do this through the designation of a neotype from the Sumatran population based on a unsexed individual at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (MNHN), C.G. 2004–45 (A.C. Ancien Catalog: 5221) collected in Sumatra by Diard and Duvaucel (Fig. 1). This specimen is considered to be the one that Temminck (1822) claimed was the model for his Plate 159 (Cleere et al., 2006).

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary power:

- (a) to rule that the name *Podargus cornutus* was proposed by Temminck (1822) for a new taxon, rather than as a replacement name for *Podargus javensis* Horsfield, 1821, thereby removing this taxon from junior objective synonymy with *Podargus javensis* Horsfield, 1821;
- (b) to designate specimen C.G. 2004–45 (A.C. Ancien Catalog: 5221) in Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (MNHN), as neotype of *Podargus cornutus* Temminck, 1822, as deemed available in (1) above;

- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *cornutus* Temminck, 1822, as published in the binomen *Podargus cornutus*, as deemed available in (1) above and as defined by the neotype in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (MNHN), C.G. 2004–45 (A.C. Ancien Catalog: 5221).

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Acknowledgement of receipt of this application was published in BZN 66: 108.

Comments on this case are invited for publication (subject to editing) in the *Bulletin*; they should be sent to the Executive Secretary, I.C.Z.N., c/o Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K. (e-mail: iczn@nhm.ac.uk).